



HALF MAST? – The “Puff” suffered the most severe damage from last week’s storm. Lighting struck the boat, cutting its metal mast in half, while the larger DBMS pirate ship remained safely moored close by.

Harbor Hit Hard by Storm

Last week’s storm wreaked havoc in Duxbury Harbor, but had little affect inland according to town officials.

The Harbormaster’s office had to call in additional staff and contact personnel from the Duxbury Bay Maritime School and Duxbury Yacht Club to control damage and rescue loose boats.

The police and fire departments reported no storm related calls, other than a few branches down in the road.

“The storm appears to have been centralized in Duxbury Harbor,” said Executive Officer Dennis Pearse of the

harbormaster’s office, who was called in shortly after midnight Friday morning.

“The wind was blowing in every direction.”

People who stayed on their boats throughout the storm reported wind speeds as high as 60 knots.

Damage included one boat that was struck by lighting, snapping its metal mast in half, and two other boats that capsized. Several boats dragged moorings.

Racks holding between 35-50 Opti sailors, small teaching sailboats that are kept by both DBMS and the yacht club, were

thrown off the floats where they are stored and into the harbor, scattering the small boats throughout the harbor.

All the Opti sailors were recovered according to Ned Lawson, executive director of DBMS, though several centerboards were still missing after the storm passed. Lawson said he thought damage was minimal, given the force of the wind.

It was low tide at the time the storm hit, which made collecting the small boats, cushions and centerboards somewhat easier, Lawson said.